

California North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board
5550 Skylane Boulevard, Suite A
Santa Rosa, CA 95403
(707) 576-2220

Notice of Public Comment and Public Hearing

of

Proposed Order No. R1-2009-0028 Extension of Expiration
Date of Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements

for

Order No. R1-2004-0015,
Categorical Waiver For Discharges Related to Timber Harvest Activities
On Federal Lands Managed by the
United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service
in the North Coast Region

On the basis of preliminary staff review and application of lawful standards and regulations, the California North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) proposes to consider extending the Expiration Date for Categorical Waiver For Discharges Related to Timber Harvest Activities On Federal Lands Managed by the **United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service** in the North Coast Region (Federal Timber Waiver). This item will be open for public comment between March 23, 2009 and April 13, 2009. This Item will be before the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board on April 23, 2009.

Public Hearing Procedures

A public hearing to consider comments and objections to the proposed order is scheduled for April 23, 2009, at 9:00 a.m., or as announced in the Regional Water Board's summary agenda to be mailed on or about April 1, 2009. The meeting will be held at the Fortuna Riverlodge Conference Center, in the Chinook Room located at 1800 Riverwalk Drive, Fortuna, California. At the public hearing, the Regional Water Board will consider whether to affirm, reject, or modify the proposed extension of a waiver of waste discharge requirements.

In order for the Regional Water Board to consider any evidentiary material concerning this hearing, any documents, including written technical reports and other evidentiary material, must be received by the Regional Water Board no later than 5:00 p.m., on April 13, 2009, at 5550 Skylane Boulevard, Suite A, Santa Rosa, California 95403. All documents that are received timely will be distributed to the Regional Water Board members and interested persons. These records will also become a permanent part of the administrative record for this public hearing.

Except at the discretion of the Regional Water Board Chair, written material received after the above date will not be accepted. If the Chair chooses to accept late written material, that material will not be incorporated into the administrative record if doing so would prejudice the Discharger or the Regional Water Board staff. The Chair may choose to modify this rule upon a showing of severe hardship (California Code of Regulations, title 23, sections 648.1 and 648.4).

The time limit for oral testimony or comments at the hearing will be set by the Regional Water Board Chair and are subject to change. These time limits normally allow no more than 10 minutes each for Regional Water Board staff and Dischargers. All speakers are expected to honor these time limits. Other interested persons may also provide testimony at this public hearing. However, any testimony given by someone other than staff or the Discharger, may be limited to three minutes and may only be given under the limited scope of summarizing or explaining any timely-submitted or late-accepted written evidence. In an effort to be fair to all people who wish to testify at this public hearing, the Regional Water Board Chair may choose to use a timer to ensure that individuals stay within the time limits set by the Chair. The Chair also requests that in order to avoid unnecessary repetitive testimony, that one spokesperson be selected to speak on behalf of many individuals, when those individuals share a common affiliation or interest.

Document Review

The tentative Order, related documents, and comments, received by the Regional Water Board will be on file and may be inspected or copied at the Regional Water Board's office, 5550 Skylane Boulevard, Suite A, Santa Rosa, California. Appointments are recommended for document review. Appointments can be made by calling (707) 576-2220. In addition, the tentative order is posted at the following location: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/board_decisions/tentative_orders/

Catherine Kuhlman
Executive Officer

March 23, 2009